

Improvements to Millennium Park Community Meeting #2



March 18, 2021
Boston Parks and Recreation Department



MEETING RECORDING

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be recording the meeting and posting to our project webpage for those who are unable to attend the Zoom Webinar live.

Please share with your neighbors and friends!

boston.gov/millennium-park



ZOOM TIPS

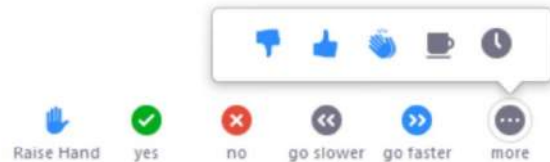
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DURING THE PRESENTATION:



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VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE

We want to ensure this conversation is a pleasant experience for all and that all community members/ stakeholders are comfortable sharing their comments, questions and feedback.

Please be respectful and mindful of each other's time when asking questions/ providing comments, so that all attendees are able to participate in the meeting.

Keep questions/ comments project-specific and not personal to yield solution-driven discussion.

Please wait until all attendees have had the opportunity to ask a question/ provide a comment before providing additional questions/ comments.

You can always set up a conversation with **Allison Perlman**,
Allison.Perlman@boston.gov to further discuss the project or process.



AGENDA

WELCOME – ALLISON PERLMAN PROJECT MANAGER, BOSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1

PROJECT TEAM INTRODUCTIONS

2

PROJECT OVERVIEW

3

COMMUNITY MEETING #1 WHAT WE HEARD

PROJECT PRESENTATION – CDM SMITH

1

SITE PAVING ANALYSIS – PATHWAYS, PARKING AREAS, AND ROADWAYS

2

PLAYGROUND CONCEPTS

3

COMMUNITY INPUT LISTENING & DISCUSSION

4

NEXT STEPS



PROJECT TEAM

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PARK LIFETIME

Millennium Park



Design+
Construction



Park
Maintenance





PROJECT SCOPE

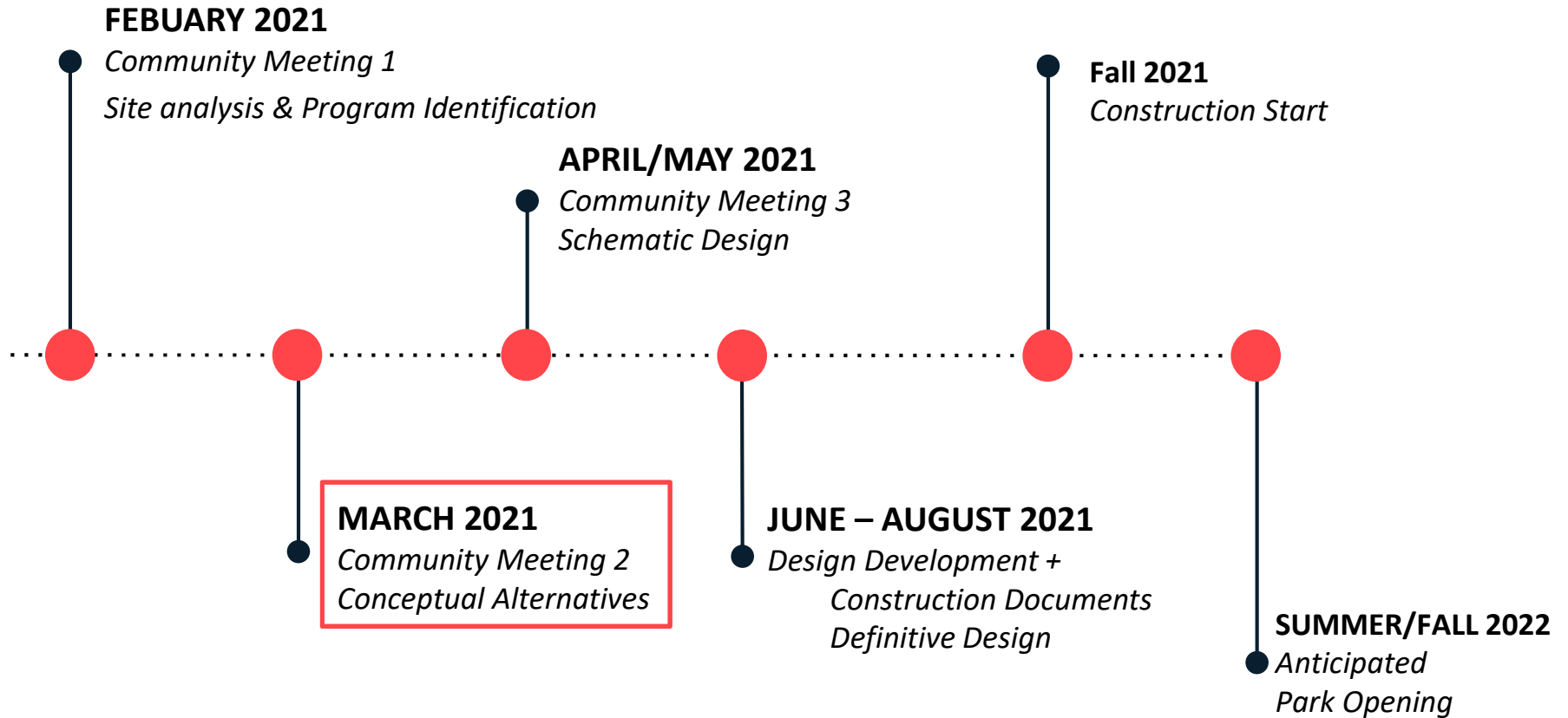
- Review existing conditions and use of the playground, pathways and parking lots
- Identify new playground elements reflective of the community
- Upgrade playground equipment, safety surfacing and access
- Assess feasibility of new restroom building
- Replace or repair damaged pathways or parking - on-going process



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PROJECT SCHEDULE



COMMUNITY MEETING #1 WHAT WE HEARD

- Create a regional playground that uses the site to its fullest capacity. Creating a fun and engaging space for all ages and abilities.
- Improve site pathways and furnishings, creating an accessible and connected site.
- Looking at the possibility of creating a permanent restroom facility.



WHAT WE HEARD – PLANTINGS AND PATHWAYS

- More native trees and seating
- Improved bike and pedestrian access from the VFW Parkway
- Bike racks near the entrance of the park
- Connecting the lower field to the playground
- Exercise stations along the pathways
- Mark walking distance on pathways



WHAT WE HEARD – RESTROOMS

- Maintain a check-in area for sporting events
- Permanent restrooms are important for extended activities at the park
- Maintenance and safety are key considerations



WHAT WE HEARD - PLAYGROUND

- Swings are important
- Recommendations on additional equipment
 - Climbing features
 - Zipline
 - Slides (big, side-by side, embankment)
 - Playhouse
 - Structures with bridges
 - Things that spin
 - See saw
- Features that use elements like wind or bird watching
- Include nature themed play and creative play elements
- Integrate seating within play areas
- Fencing
 - Need fencing for safety of small children
 - Fencing each area makes it difficult to move between areas with multiple kids
 - Natural barriers could be considered in areas for older children
- Include recycled elements
- Replace the wood chips



PAVING ANALYSIS IMAGES



Upper Pathway Cracking



Road to Canoe Launch



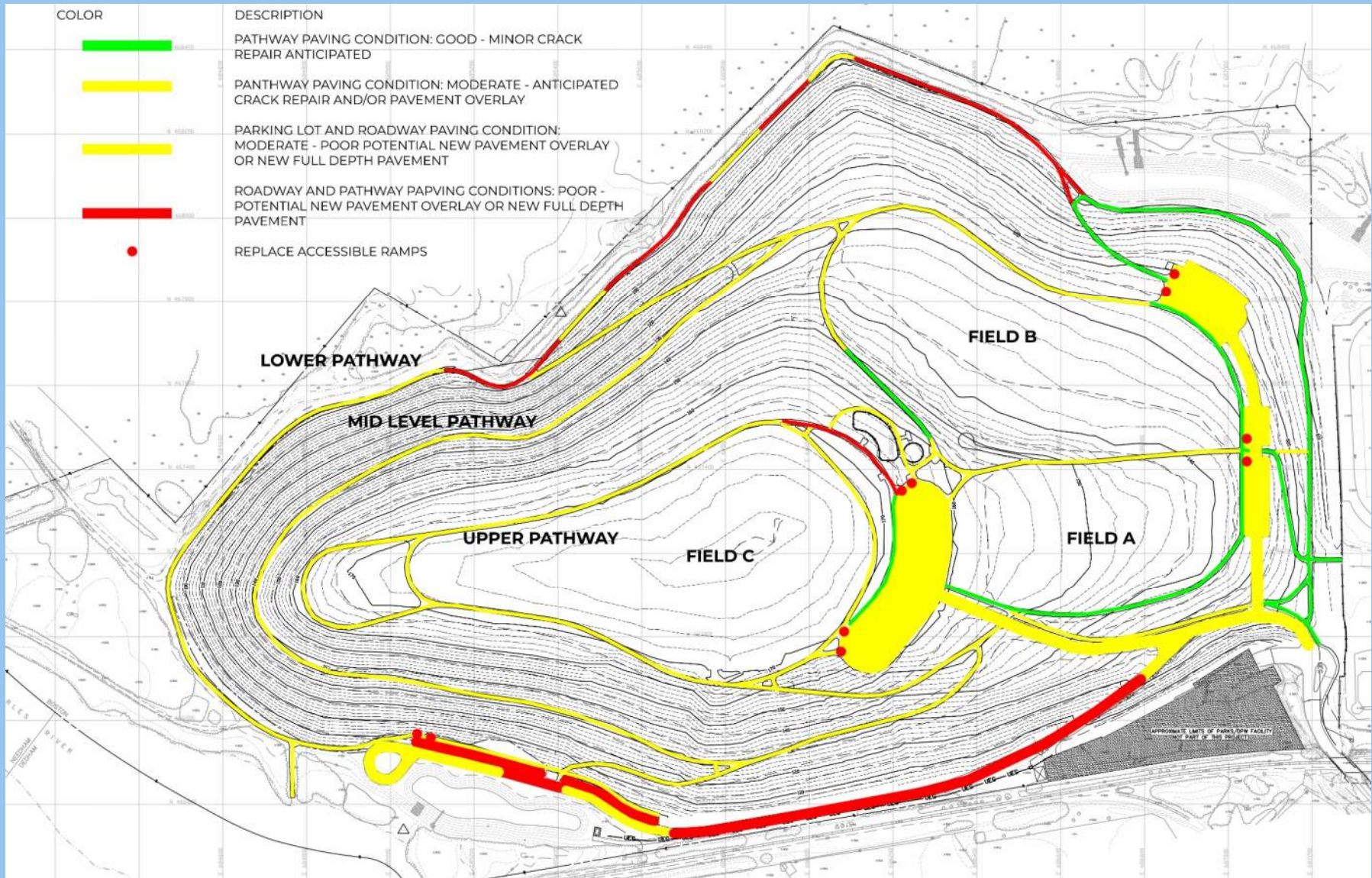
Lower Perimeter Path



Parking Areas



PAVING ANALYSIS



CONCEPT 1 OVERVIEW

PLAYGROUND THEME: THE BIRD HOUSE - A VIEW OF THE CITY



CONCEPT 1 - AREA A 2-5 BIRD PLAY HOUSE

Climbing Structure



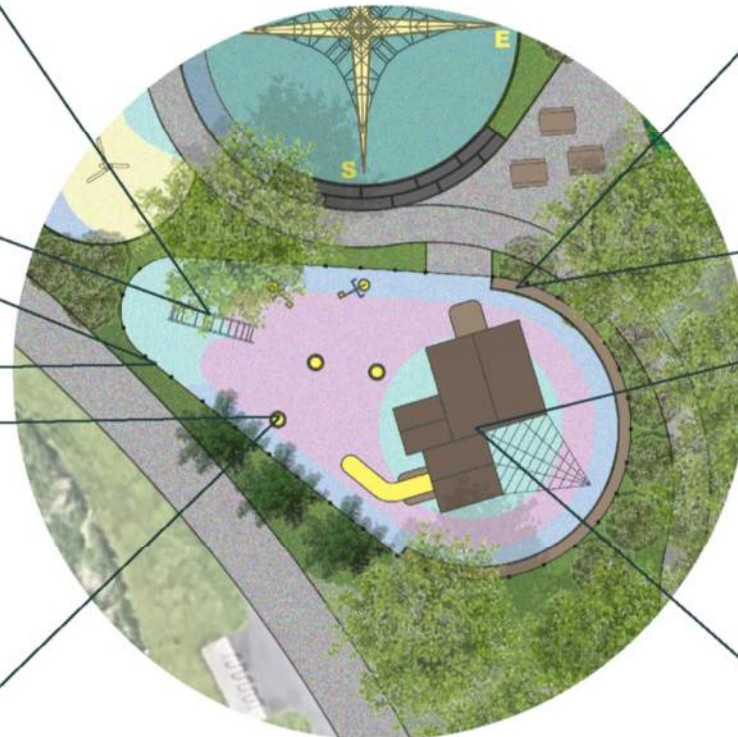
Bench Incorporated Into Fencing



Berming and Fencing



Bird's Nest Play Area



Bird House Play Structure with Slide



This toddler area is enclosed by an ornamental fence, this area consists of a bird house style play structure with a small slide extending from it. A small sand pit extends from one side, with sand excavators and 4' tall climbing feature. Circling around the back of it is an incorporated bench for the parents to rest under shade.



CONCEPT 1 - AREA B SWINGS AND BALANCING

Timber Nest Swing



Birds nest
Physical: balance, coordination and spatial awareness are developed when swinging. The swinging movement trains the arm, leg and core muscles, and strengthens bone density when jumping off.
Social: Encourages the cooperative play skills for many children standing, swinging, seated together and is inclusive for all.
Cognitive: cause and effect, understanding, rhythm and thinking skills are developed in younger children.



Balancing Equipment



Wobble bridge
Physical: strength of walking, balance, coordination and spatial awareness are developed when swinging. The swinging movement trains the arm, leg and core muscles, and strengthens bone density when jumping off.
Social: Encourages the cooperative play skills for many children standing, swinging, seated together and is inclusive for all.
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Swings



Attractive Colored Surfacing



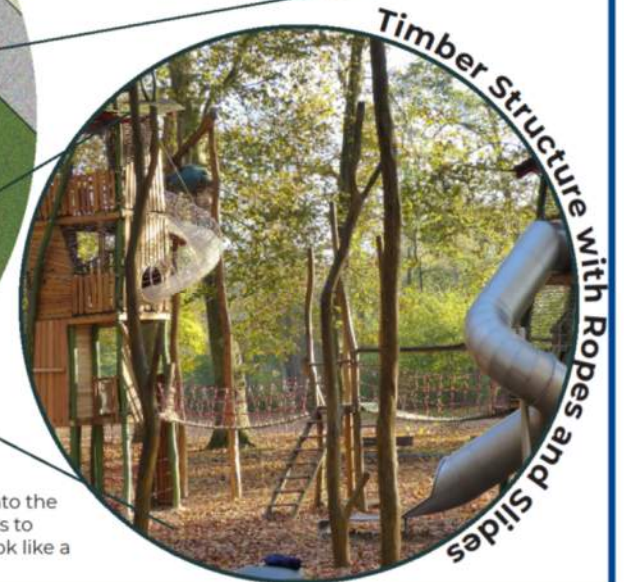
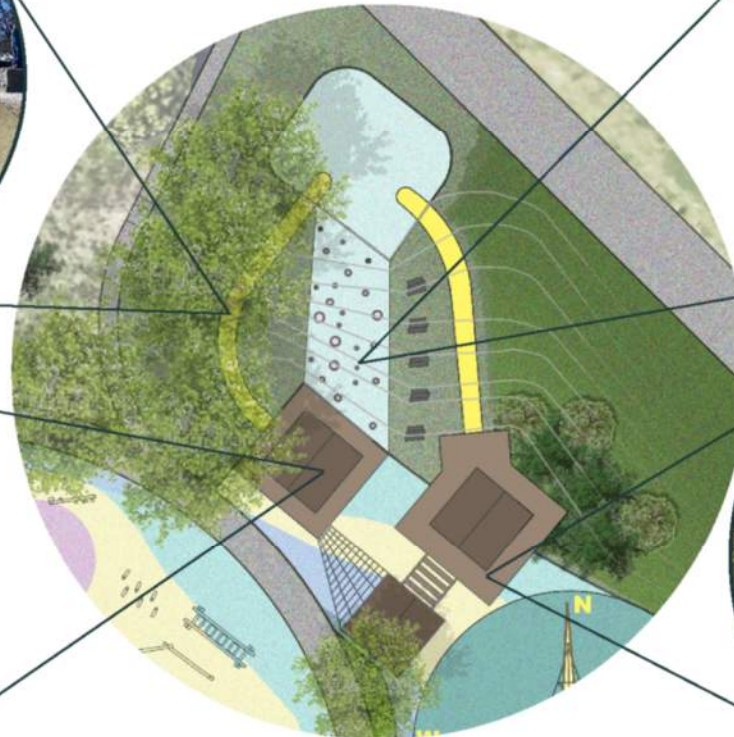
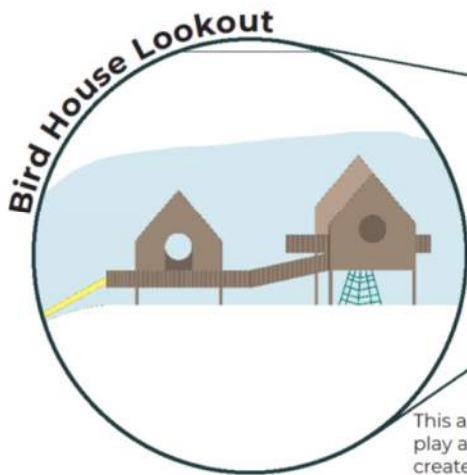
Berming Along Edge



Balance structures swings and natural rocks and berms help to create a place for kids to swing, run around and complete obstacle course. Granite seating wraps around the area, wrapping around a small picnic area for children and their parents.

CONCEPT 1 - AREA C

5-12 LARGE STRUCTURE WITH HILL SLIDES



This area provides improved views of the city while also incorporating the hillside into the play area. This structure consists of bridges, rope traverses, slides, and other features to create a unique multi-use playground structure. The design of this structure will look like a cluster of bird houses with a slide extending from it.



CONCEPT 1 - AREA D 5-12 CLIMBING STRUCTURE WITH VIEW

Compass Painted Padding



Sledding Clearing



Net Climbing Structure



Granite Amphitheater Seating



A rope structure comprises most of this area, keeping it open for children to run under and around the structure. A circular padding will be designed to have a compass rose in it, helping the children understand their location. Granite amphitheater seating circles around the back edge of this area, separating it from the pathway.

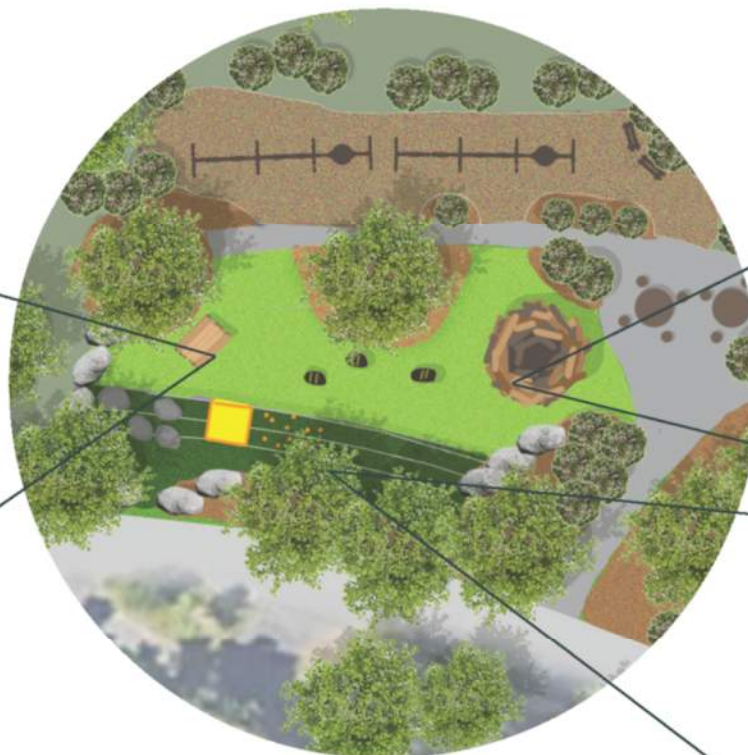


CONCEPT 2 OVERVIEW PLAYGROUND THEME: BIRDS AND THEIR HABITAT



CONCEPT 2 - AREA A WOODLAND 2-5 PLAY WITH EMBANKMENT SLIDE

Woodland Play Houses



Bird's Nest Theme Play



Play Mound with Climbing and Slides



The woodland area is meant as a more quiet area for toddlers and their parents. Focused on theme play, this area will include play houses and a bird nest sculpture that will ignite the imagination. This area also features a play mound with slides and climbing features, similar to the larger hillside on the site, yet more suitable for younger children. The swings will be adjacent to this play space, and will include various swing types, including toddler swings, accessible swings, and nest swings.



CONCEPT 2 - AREA B WETLAND BALANCING AND SPINNING PLAY

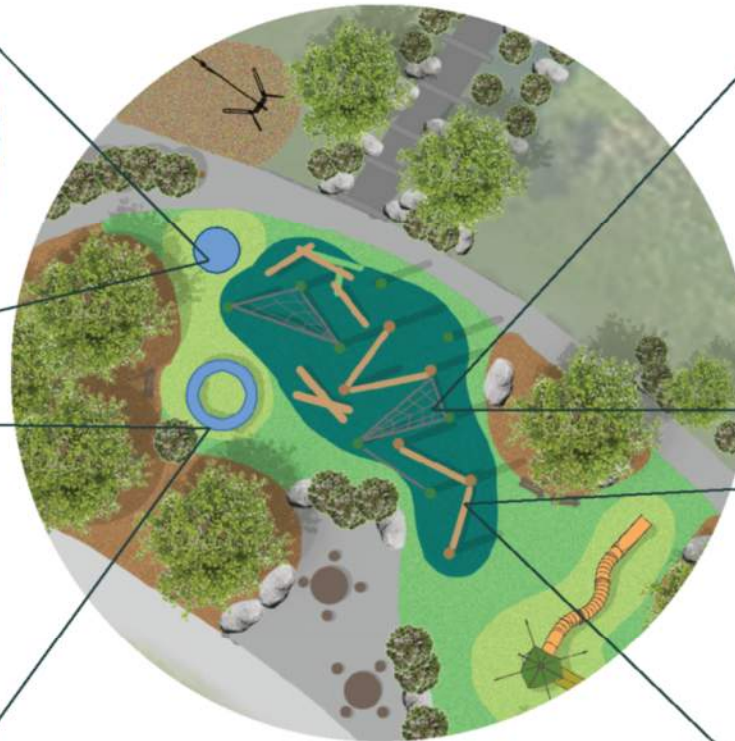
ADA Carousel



Fallen Logs and Nets



Supernova Spinner



Standing Trees Balance Course



The balance wetland is made up of various timber-form balancing equipment and net climbers between them, acting as an obstacle course. Spinning equipment is also included here, since these pieces are always playground magnets, and allow for multiple children of different ages and abilities to interact and play on one piece of equipment at the same time.



CONCEPT 2 - AREA C TREETOP CLIMBER

5-12 ROPE CLIMBER WITH SLIDE AND BRIDGES

Skywalk Bridge and Climbing Net



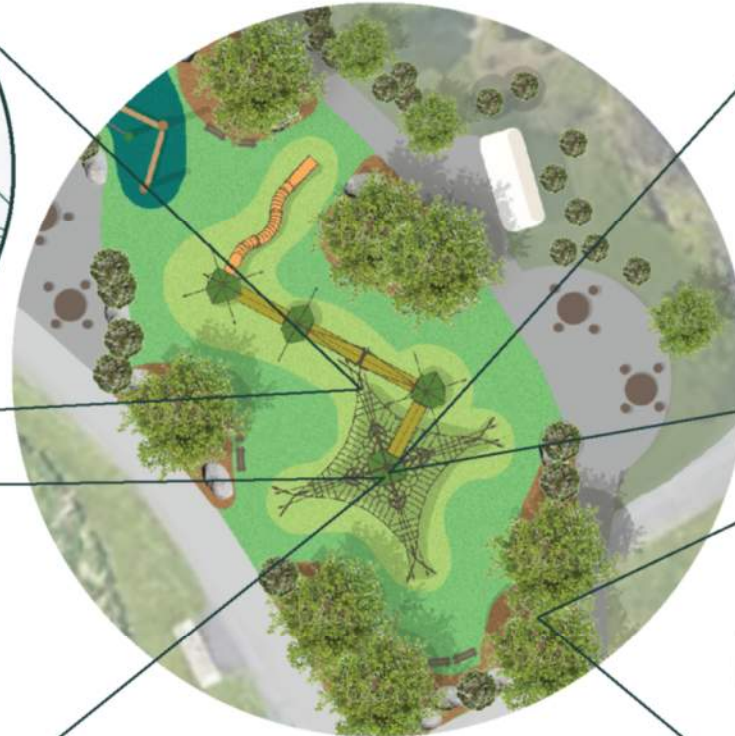
Treetop Crows Nest



Bird's Nest Lookout



Integrated Planted Buffers

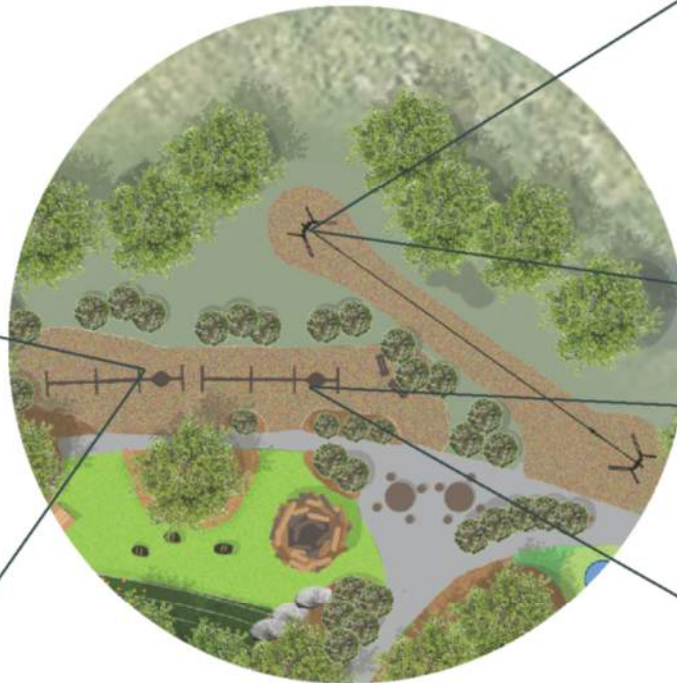


This area will feature a customizable climbing structure that can be scaled up or down depending on budget. The large climbing net will include routes of varying difficulty to the top that will allow children with different abilities to challenge themselves and progress over time. The lookout crows nests could be designed to resemble treetops or birds nests, giving the kids an exciting vantage point and acting as a destination within the playground.



CONCEPT 2 - AREA D FLYING SWINGS AND ZIPLINE

Timber Frame Swing set



Nest Swing

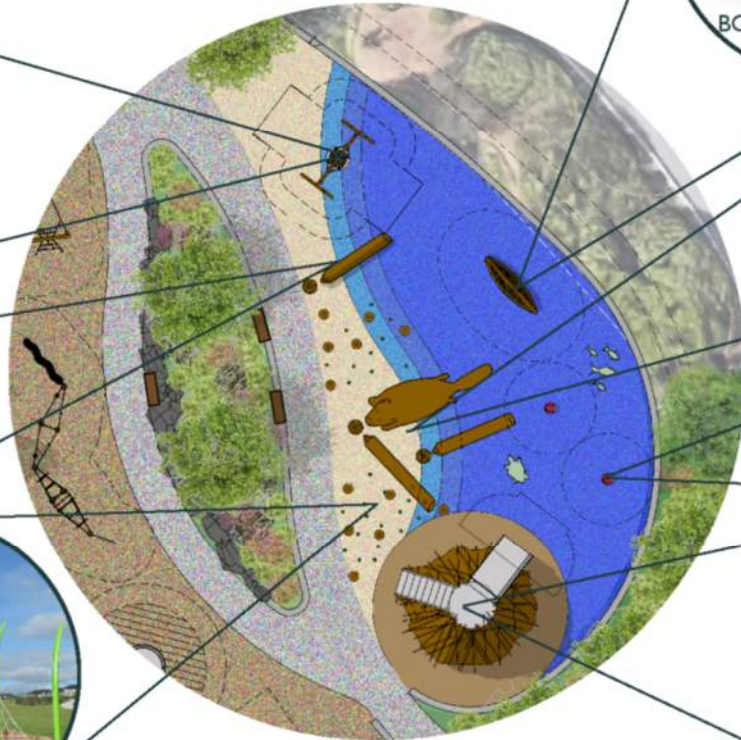


This area will include a timber frame zip line, allowing children of all ages to fly through the trees. As with the rest of the playground, plantings will be woven throughout to provide visual interest as well as a buffer from the strong winds on the site.

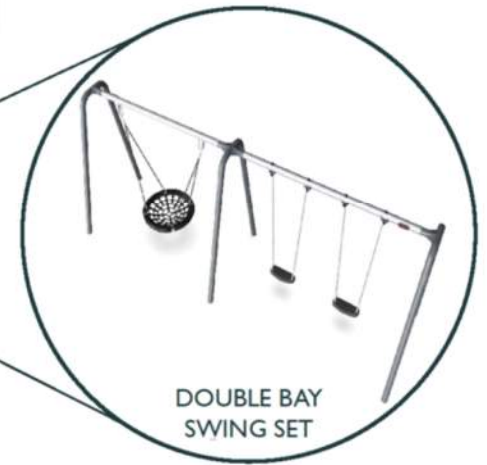
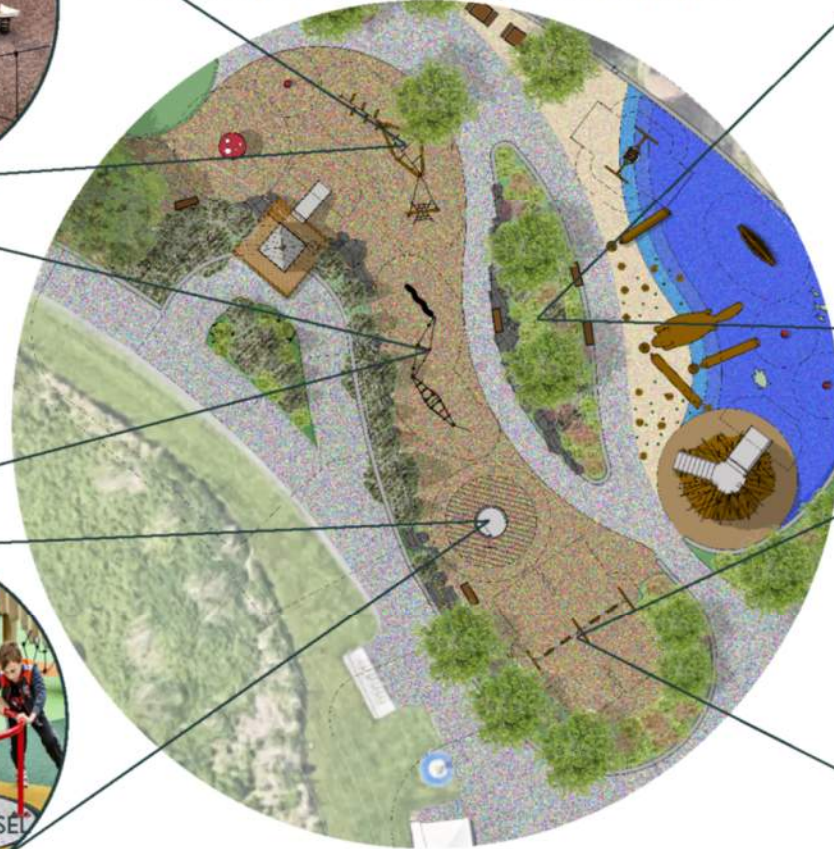




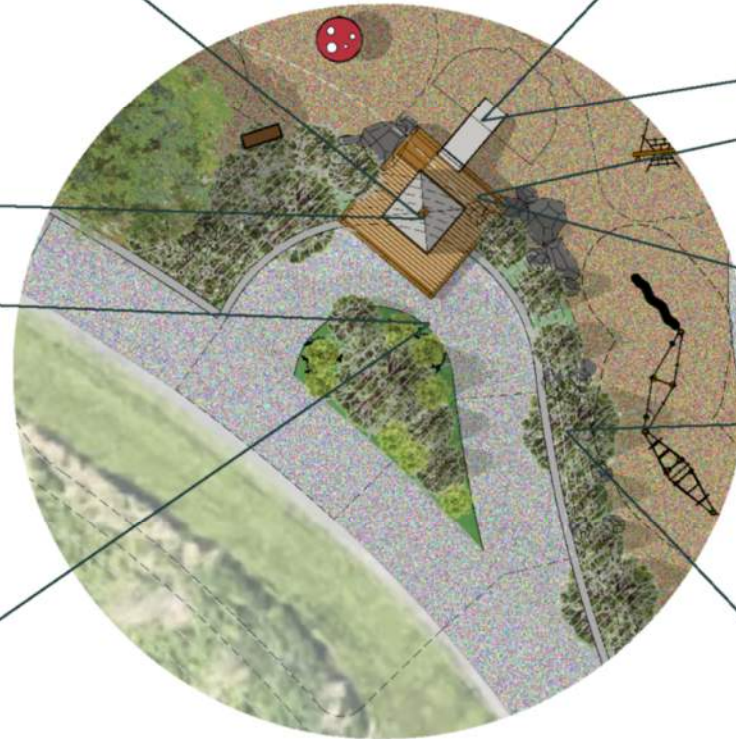
CONCEPT 3 - AREA A
THE RIVER'S EDGE
2-5 PLAYHOUSE WITH SLIDE, DISH
SWING, BALLANCING ELEMENTS, AND
RIVER CREATURES



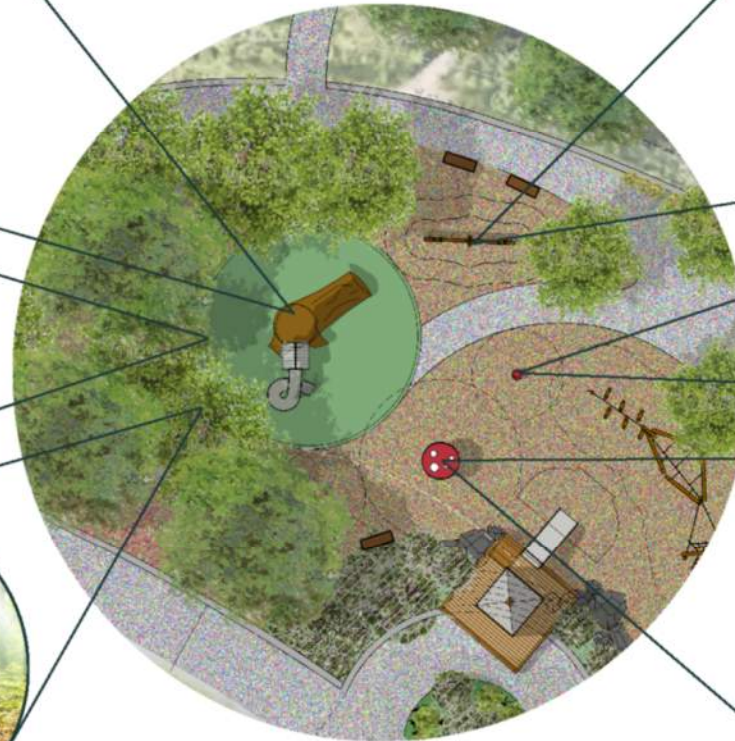
CONCEPT 3 - AREA B THE VALLEY FLOOR INCLUSIVE SPINNING ELEMENTS, CLIMBING OBSTACLES, AND SWINGS



CONCEPT 3 - AREA C THE MOUNTAIN TOP 5-12 OVERLOOK WITH TOWER STRUCTURE AND SLIDES



CONCEPT 3 - AREA D THE HARDWOOD FOREST TREE HOUSE PLAY STRUCTURE



FULLY FENCED



FENCING AND BERM



BERM AND LANDSCAPING





KEY FEATURES -

AREA A - 2-5, PLAY HOUSE WITH CLIMBING AND SLIDES, SMALL CLIMBER AND NESTS

AREA B - SWINGS AND BALANCING/ CLIMBING ELEMENTS

AREA C - 5-12, LARGE STRUCTURE WITH HILL SLIDES

AREA D - 5-12, LARGE CLIMBING STRUCTURE WITH VIEW



KEY FEATURES -

AREA A - 2-5, PLAY WITH SMALL EMBANKMENT SLIDE, NEST, AND PLAYHOUSE

AREA B - BALANCING AND SPINNING PLAY ELEMENTS

AREA C - 5-12, LARGE CLIMBER ROPE STRUCTURE WITH SLIDE AND BRIDGES

AREA D - SWINGS AND ZIPLINE



KEY FEATURES -

AREA A - 2-5, PLAYHOUSE WITH SLIDE, DISH SWING, BALANCING ELEMENTS AND RIVER CREATURES

AREA B - INCLUSIVE SPINNING ELEMENTS, OBSTACLE CLIMBING ELEMENTS, AND SWINGS

AREA C - 5-12, OVERLOOK TOWER STRUCTURE (ACCESSIBLE FROM BOTH TOP AND BOTTOM) WITH SLIDES AND VIEW

AREA D - SMALL TREE HOUSE PLAY STRUCTURE AND SEESAW



LISTENING & DISCUSSION

Help us build great parks.
Let us know what matters to you.



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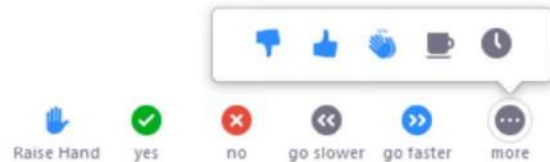
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NEXT STEPS

- Community online survey
- CDM Smith will summarize and evaluate input from the community
- Develop a preferred concept plan
- Conceptual design community presentation in April/May 2021

boston.gov/millennium-park



ONLINE SURVEY

Follow the link on Boston Parks website to find the survey on the improvements to Millennium Park

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=jlsKM7pmXEi93Tvt_Vf6ARGJaDDLkIlnIkejBHibVFUQIINNTNPTTM0WFIFRzI0SkgxTFZXSzBSSy4u



Millennium Park Community Survey

The Millennium Park playground, pathways and restroom feasibility project aims to enhance this regional destination park. With the input provided from you, we can help create a park that fits the needs of the community.





THANK YOU!

Next Meeting March, 2021

For questions, maintenance requests or concerns regarding any of our parks contact 311



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